

GUMALA NEWSLETTER

March 2022



*Celebrating
25 Years*

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS



Gumala Aboriginal Corporation (GAC) would like to acknowledge that 1 March 2022 marks the 25-year anniversary of the signing of the Yandi Land Use Agreement (YLUA).

After a great deal of negotiating and many robust meetings, the YLUA was ratified by a community meeting and signed in Tom Price on 1 March 1997. The Agreement between Hamersley Iron (a wholly owned subsidiary of Rio Tinto) and GAC was the first major land use agreement signed in Australia.

It was a historical turning point between resource companies and Traditional Owners, and the 134 original signatories to the YLUA were the founding Members of GAC, which was created to represent the collective interests of the Banjima, Yinhawangka and Niyaparli peoples of the Pilbara region of Western Australia.

Sadly, some of those Traditional Owners have now passed away but current and future generations will always be grateful for the foundations that were laid by all of the

original signatories. Their legacy lives on and they would be proud that current and future Traditional Owners will continue to achieve sustainable, social and economic outcomes from the YLUA.

Thanks to their unwavering determination, they ensured that a land use deal would be struck that would result in long-term economic, social and community development benefits to the Traditional Owners.

Over the past 25 years, the YLUA has provided funding opportunities that have allowed GAC to pursue projects and programs aimed at improving our communities and the lives of our Members, of which there are now approximately 2,000.

We would like to thank our artists and Gumala Members who have allowed us to use their beautiful artwork on our 25-year anniversary shirts: Juanita Lyndon, May Byrne and Arron Yarran. Details about the artwork, artists and how to order the special shirts can be found on page 4 and 5.

When reading this publication and sharing it with family and friends, please be mindful that it may contain images and/or names of people who have since passed away.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT



Thannarru,
This newsletter coincides with a significant milestone for the Gumala family: 1 March 2022 is 25 years since the Yandi Land Use Agreement (YLUA) was signed between Gumala Aboriginal Corporation and Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd, now Rio Tinto. In

1997 the signing of the YLUA marked a moment in time for Aboriginal People in the Central Pilbara and the relationship between resource companies and Traditional Owners.

Each March is an important milestone for the Yinhawangka, Banjima and Nyiyaparli people who came together to form Gumala, but 25 years is a significant date that we should celebrate and take great pride in.

We've come a long way from the early days and it's important that as we move forward, we constantly align ourselves to the aspirations of the original signatories. We recognise and pay our respects to those Elders who came together for the agreement, and to their children and grandchildren who have now broadened the Member base by following in their footsteps.

At the time of signing, there were 134 signatories representing our three language groups in a move that began Gumala's journey, bringing us to where we are today. Focussed on providing direct relief from poverty, sickness, suffering, destitution, misfortune and homelessness, the Corporation has been involved in the lives of the Members to bring about change. This journey is not over.

We've grown so much since those early years. Those 134 signatories have brought us generations of Gumala families, now making us approximately 2000 adult Members strong, with generations following them. Largely still based within the Pilbara, we have survived through mining booms, the global financial crisis and in recent years, the COVID-19 pandemic.

After 25 years, the passage of time has only added challenges for Gumala to address. To name a few of the areas we are currently strengthening:

- We're focused on flexible delivery of our program funding to put our Members in the driver's seat to steer the use of funds tailored to their personal priorities.
- We're focused on housing, launching the first stages of access to housing aimed at our Members who are most in need, and vulnerable to the Pilbara housing market impacted by movements of miners in the region.
- We're focused on partnerships with other corporations and services for our Members; Supporting the language group corporations for Banjima, Yinhawangka and Nyiyaparli people in respect of their Native Title determined country.
- We're focused on access to community buildings, power, water and communications at homeland communities. An example of this is partnering with Pacific Energy to provide hybrid power solutions.
- We're focussed on the future of our Gumala children through the running of our 3a program across the Pilbara. First opened in June 2011, the "Gumala 0-5 Studio" (now called 3a centre) is a unique early childhood learning centre located at Wakuthuni. The 3a project came to fruition thanks to an innovative partnership between GAC and The University of Melbourne. The program has been delivered by GAC for 10 years at centres in Hedland, Karratha, Roebourne, Marble Bar, North Tom Price and Wakuthuni.

The Gumala people, after 25 years, are at a moment in time where we need to position ourselves for the next 25 years. As our Members are aware, the YLUA was signed at a time of uncertainty and change. Native Title was new, and the state government was questioning the compensation structure giving us an outdated and volatile disturbance model. The growth of the Corporation's membership was unforeseen and now adds a layer of challenge to be impactful in our mandate to effect change. In many ways, Gumala became a test case for relationships between Traditional Owners and resource companies.

We are pleased to say that Rio Tinto has been willing to come to the table and discuss changes to the relationship with Gumala. Given the growth of our Member and Beneficiary base, it is hoped that the historic infrastructure underpayments at Yandi, and modernisation of the YLUA, will be resolved between GAC and Rio Tinto. This will mark a positive reset in the relationship with Rio Tinto and give Gumala a pathway to be impactful for generations to come over the next 25 years.

By Justin Dhu
Executive Officer

YANDI AGREEMENT - LOOKING BACK

When viewing these photos, please be mindful that it contains images of people who have since passed away.

These photos are taken from a commemorative album of the negotiations and signing of the Yandi Land Use Agreement (YLUA) which took place between March 1996 and March 1997. The historic agreement was signed on 1 March 1997 and sealed the deal for Hamersley Iron (wholly owned subsidiary of Rio Tinto) to pay compensation royalties for the disturbance to the Traditional Owners sacred land for iron ore mining exploration on the Yandicoogina (Yandi) mine.

Below: The first community meeting at Youngaleena, March 1996, where Peter Eggleston and other Hamersley Iron negotiators explained the deal-making process.



Above left: Gumala lawyer Mark Edwards discusses the legal issues at a community meeting at Marillana Creek, April 1996. Above right: Participants view the prospect during a visit to the lookout at Yandi in April 1996.



Left: Signing the Memorandum of Understanding in Perth on 20 November 1996.



Right: Affixing the Gumala seal to the YLUA in Youngaleena.



Left: Signing the YLUA in Youngaleena. Right: Malcolm Richmond presents a certificate commemorating the YLUA with Charles Smith.

GUMALA ARTISTS FEATURE ON ANNIVERSARY SHIRT



TO ORDER A SHIRT, GO TO OUR WEBSITE...

WWW.GUMALA.COM.AU



Thank you to our Gumala artists who have allowed us to use their beautiful artwork on our shirts to celebrate the 25-year anniversary.

Juanita Lyndon



Juanita Lyndon is a Yinhawangka woman from Paraburdoo and surrounding areas.

Juanita has lived and worked on country for Yinhawangka Aboriginal Corporation (YAC) for the past 5 and a half years and has recently relocated to Perth, continuing to work at YAC.

This painting is a representation of wildflowers which are found on Yinhawangka country and the surrounding Pilbara countryside.

Juanita is an established Pilbara artist, and her artwork signifying Yinhawangka country has been commissioned by Rio Tinto and gifted to overseas companies.



GUMALA ARTISTS FEATURE ON ANNIVERSARY SHIRT



Arron Yarran

Arron Yarran is a Nyiyaparli/Noongar woman with connections to Roy Hill, Ethel Creek, Busselton and the West Kimberly region.

Arron has been painting for many years – predominately on canvas – and has worked with various government and non-government agencies as a cultural consultant providing advice in the art space.

Arron is the Principal of Ma'OCHRE, a sole trader art enterprise that is involved in the creation of individual pieces or artwork, and the conduction of group and solo art exhibitions. Her art has been sold throughout Australia, France, Germany, Switzerland, and also displayed in China.

She is an experienced and professional artist, youth worker, mentor and trainer who works closely with the Elders and senior community members to achieve positive outcomes.

Arron's artwork is titled "Past, Future, Present" and represents when Gumala was first started by our Elders (image on left), and the present, (image in the middle) and the future, with the dancing spirits representing the people, (image on right).



May Byrne



May Byrne is a Banjima woman who resides in the Pilbara. This painting represents the colours of the Pilbara region and significantly, the snappy gum that that can be found scattered throughout the Pilbara.

May has been painting about her country for many years. In 2018, May's artwork, 'Bush Tucker Seeds' was selected through the Annual Colours of Country Exhibition hosted by Rio Tinto to be permanently showcased at the Art Gallery of WA.

In 2005, May won the Cossack Art category for Pilbara Indigenous Artist titled "Bilybarrda" (Pilbara) which means dry in the Banjima language. One of her paintings is also in a private art gallery in California, USA.

May was picked from 24 Inspirational Aboriginal people from WA to be showcased at the WA Museum Boola Bardip.

In 2020, May was recognised as one of the 15 most inspirational Indigenous leaders in the Pilbara, and continues to play a notable role with a number of Pilbara Aboriginal Corporations.

May has also been recognised for her book *Banjima Milyuranba Banjyma* which documents the history of her ancestors, and has written a baby guidance/journey story in 2018 called *Ganthayi to Ganthayi*.



Gumala 3a - Early Learning Program 0-5 years



South Hedland 3a Centre
18 Mooring Place, South Hedland
Monday to Friday 9.00am - 11.30am

Karratha 3a Centre
10 Hedland Place, Karratha
Monday to Friday 9.00am - 11.30am

Roebourne 3a Centre
Gurlu Gurlu Maya Child & Parent
Centre
47 Lockyer Way, Roebourne
Thursday 9.00am - 11.30am

Marble Bar 3a Centre
Marble Bar Primary School (art room)
Augusta Street, Marble Bar
Tuesday & Wed 9.00am - 11.30am

Wakuthuni 3a Centre
Paraburdoo Road, Wakuthuni
Monday to Wed 9.30am - 12pm

North Tom Price 3a Centre
North Tom Price Primary School
Tanunda Street, Tom Price
Thursday & Friday 9.00am - 11.30am

Phone 9188-4560
3a@gumala.com.au



All centres
operate **ONLY**
during the
school term

Our 3a Learning Centres are for all Aboriginal families with children 0-5 years. Children who attend our centres enjoy learning through fun and engaging learning games and conversational reading activities.

A nutritious morning tea is available each day and children enjoy cooking each week. Our centres provide children the best possible start to formal schooling by increasing vocabulary, confidence and independence.

We also empower families as their child's first teacher. Come and visit your local 3a Centre today.

Sheryl Hicks - 3a Program Coordinator

MEMBER PORTAL IS ALWAYS OPEN FOR BUSINESS

What and Why?

Did you know that Gumala's Member Portal allows Members to access their personal information and lodge applications 24 hours a day, 7 days a week?

Check your
balance

The portal can be accessed via **portal.gumala.com.au** or Gumala's website.

On the portal, Members can easily check their balances, lodge applications, check the status of an application, and keep their personal details up to date.

Menu	
My Balances	
Culture Program 2021-22	Remaining Funds: \$1,500.00
Flexible Program 2021-22	Remaining Funds: \$6,000.00
Funerals Program 2021-22	Remaining Funds: \$2,000.00
Member Sponsorship 2021-22 (Funds Pending)	Remaining Funds: \$0.00
Skills Development 2021-22 (Funds Pending)	Remaining Funds: \$0.00
Tertiary Assistance 2021-22 (Funds Pending)	Remaining Funds: \$0.00
Utilities Program 2021-22	Remaining Funds: \$1,000.00

Benefits for Members

Some of the main benefits of the portal are:

- Members don't have to wait for Gumala's business hours to enquire about a program balance or check on an application status.
- Members can lodge new applications and track the progress of the application.
- Members can keep their own personal details up to date.
- Members can choose their preferred method of receiving corporate communication like newsletters, annual reports, program guidelines etc.

Lodge an
application

Please select a program



portal.gumala.com.au

What do Members need for portal access?

All Members need to access the portal is a mobile phone, tablet, laptop or computer with an internet connection.

What do Members need to consider before using the portal?

Before using the portal, Members should make sure that their personal details are up to date.

If there are any changes to an email address or mobile number then Members are encouraged to contact the Gumala office as soon as possible.

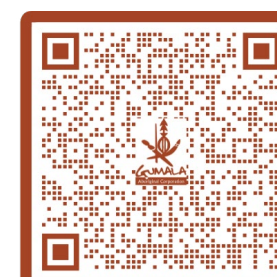
To ensure that personal details are kept secure, it is important that Members do not share their phone or email address with anyone which may allow them to access your information through the Member Portal.

How do I find out more?

If you visit Gumala's website and click on the Member Portal How-to videos, or scan the QR code below, you can read about or watch videos on the following:

- How to save a Member Portal link on your mobile or computer
- How to access your balance
- How to lodge an application
- How to check the status of your application
- How to update your profile
- How to switch profiles
- How to log off
- How to save a draft and then complete the draft
- How to update your communication.

SCAN QR CODE



Member Portal

COMMUNITY PROJECTS UPDATE

Mingullatharndo Watersafe Project

In 2017, Gumala funded a Watersafe project to support the community to get access to high-quality water. The issue was that there was arsenic in the water which made it completely undrinkable.

Over the years, Gumala has supported water projects, and as of the beginning of November, the community has installed a new water treatment plant through Gumala funding.

This project has been partnered closely with the community and Fortescue Metals Group. It is exciting that the project is just about complete and that the community has access to good quality water from a bore that will last them well and truly into the future.

Gumala is keen to look at supporting the establishment of water treatment plants in our other Homeland communities.



Wakuthuni Cemetery Fencing

The fencing of the Wakuthuni Cemetery has been an initiative of the Wakuthuni community for the past year.

After consultation and sign off from various community members, the project began and was completed in December 2021.

Feedback from the community is that the fence not only looks great but is very functional due to having two large gates at either end of the cemetery for easy access.

Gumala is very proud to have been able to deliver this project for the Wakuthuni community and their families.



MEMBER SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

Gumala continues to encourage our Members to consider applying for the Member Sponsorship Program.

The program ensures that Members are supported financially to engage in once-in-a-lifetime opportunities that will deliver lasting and tangible educational, cultural or health and wellbeing-related outcomes.

It provides financial support and resources to Members who are excelling in their community or in their hobbies, or who have been given an opportunity to participate in an educational, cultural or health

and wellbeing-related activity or event that they would not otherwise be able to afford.

To date, this sponsorship has successfully allowed our Members to take part in a vast range of wonderful opportunities.

If you or your family member would like more information on how to apply for the Member Sponsorship program, please visit the GAC website or contact the GAC office on 9219-4500.



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

COMMUNICATING WITH GUMALA

In 2022, how would you like to receive your corporate communication from Gumala?

(e.g. newsletters, annual reports, meeting notices etc.)



**SMS?
Email?
Post?**

On 20 January 2022, Gumala sent all of our Members an SMS asking how they would like to receive corporate communication in the future. Corporate communication may include things like this newsletter, annual reports, Member Program Guidelines, AGM and meeting notices, special events information and more.

If you would like to change the way you currently receive communication, please contact our Gumala office on (08) 9219-4500. Please also note that you can update your preferences at any time via the Gumala Member Portal. The portal can be accessed via portal.gumala.com.au or Gumala's website. PORTAL: Under MY PROFILE, scroll down to COMMUNICATION PREFERENCES and select the option that you would prefer - email, SMS or Post.

Gumala would like to remind Members who still have funds in their FLEXIBLE PROGRAM that these funds must be used by June 2022.

2022 EDUCATION PROGRAM UPDATE

Any child in the care of a registered Member or Beneficiary is eligible to access our Education Programs (Kindy – Year 12) for the 2022 school year under Gumala's Student Status. The current 2021 school year program runs until 31 October 2022.

The 2022 Education Programs provide the following amounts:

- \$500 per child for kindergarten students
- \$2,500 per child for primary school students
- \$4,000 per child for high school students

What items are available?

1. Books and stationery
2. School fees and contributions
3. Uniforms
4. Canteen lunches
5. Camp and Country Week fee
6. Equipment – e.g. sports clothing, musical instrument, computer, iPad (only one per financial year)
7. School photographs
8. Tutoring



9. Travel & accommodation (boarding school and school bus services only)
10. Extracurricular activities or excursions
11. Bicycles and scooters. (capped at \$600)
12. Children's sports clothing (excluding uniforms; capped at \$600)

Eligibility

Any minors in the care of a Gumala Member or Beneficiary are eligible for this program if:

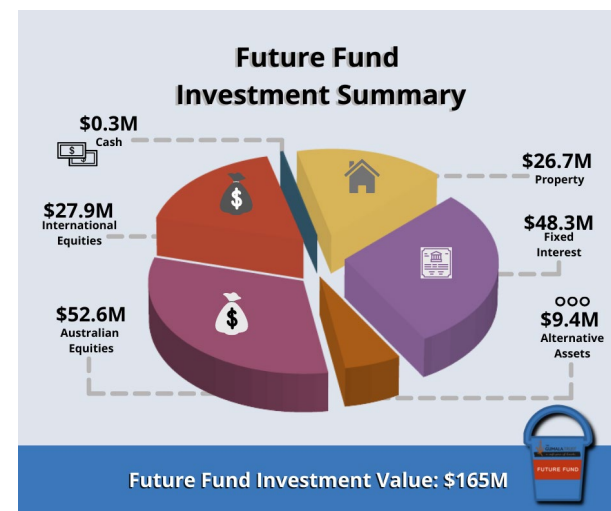
- They are going to school (proof of enrolment required)
- Their parent is a registered Member or Beneficiary of Gumala Aboriginal Corporation (pending applicants' children cannot access funds).
- All required documentation has been provided to register the child including:
 - a completed Student Registration Form
 - a copy of their full birth certificate
 - carer/guardianship supporting documents (if necessary).



GUMALA INVESTMENTS PTY LTD (GIPL)

GGF Financial Overview

The General Gumala Foundation Trust is pleased to advise the Beneficiaries that, as at December 31 2021, the total assets held under investment was \$186.1M, with \$165.3M of those investments within the Future Fund. The net Future Fund, after factoring in liabilities, was \$161.5M.

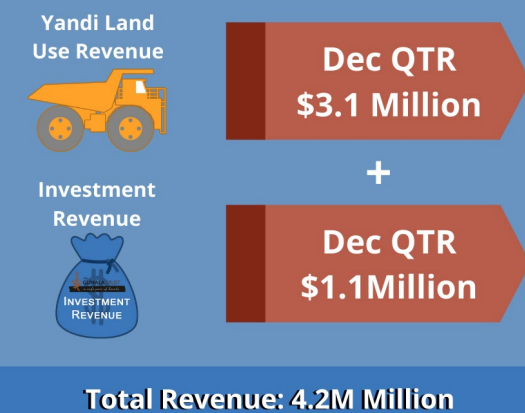


Included in the Future Fund investments is \$4.8M of residential houses purchased in Karratha for GAC's Housing Support program.

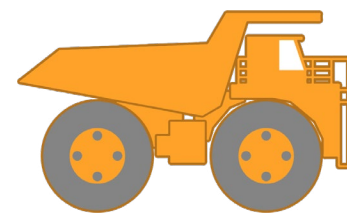


Total Revenue for the 3 months, to the 31 December 2021, was \$4.22M, with \$0.73M being retained for the benefit of Gumala Members and Beneficiaries through available Member Program Funding and Investments into the Future Fund.

The Gumala Foundation Revenue

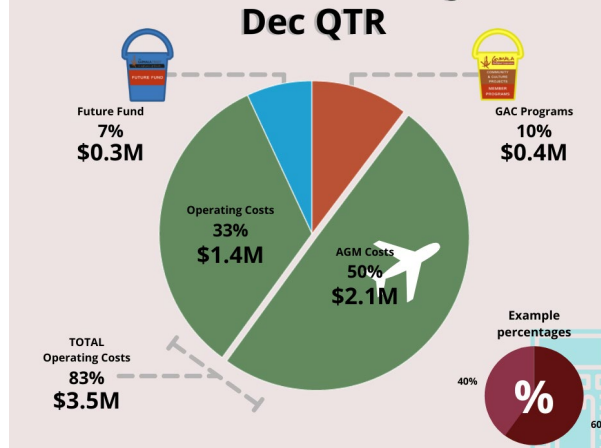


Within this total revenue, the Yandi Land Use Agreement payments totaled \$3.15M.



Operating costs during the December quarter were \$3.5M, of which a large component was the costs and payments of \$2.1M associated with the joint consultation and AGMs held in October.

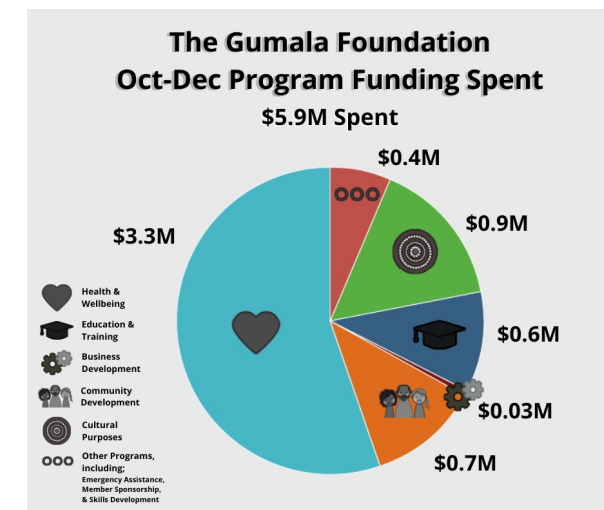
The Gumala Foundation Funding Allocation



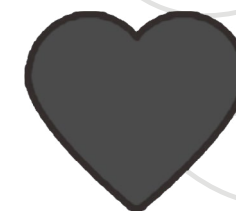
GUMALA INVESTMENTS PTY LTD (GIPL)



This, in conjunction with the lower Yandi Land Use revenue in this quarter, results in a lower amount being able to be retained for Member Program Funding. These fluctuations in quarterly payments and costs highlight the value in Gumala continuing to use arrears-based funding for our Member Programs.



For the three months to 31 of December 2021, \$5.98M was spent on program funding, bringing the total program spending, so far, in the 2021/22 financial year to \$13.89M.



The Health & Wellbeing programs, including those options under the Flexible Program, continue to be the largest component of program spending and is reflective of how Members are choosing to utilise their funds.

Contact GIPL

Email: gipl@gumalatrust.com

Web: www.gumalatrust.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/GumalaTrust/

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/gumala-trust/

The 5-year-terms for the Independent Directors come to an end* this upcoming May. GIPL would like to thank Brendon Grylls, Irina Cattalini and Ian McPherson for their outstanding work.



When they commenced their roles in 2017, the Foundation moved to arrears-based funding, with \$90M in the Future Fund. The Future Fund has now grown to \$161.5M, which is a 78% increase.



They also helped to conduct the fourth Foundation Review during 2018, implementing the Review Recommendations, including Joint Board training for GAC and GIPL and the Joint Strategic Plan which was finalised late 2021.

During their time as Directors, the Foundation has seen greater cooperation between the entities, so we thank them for their accomplishments.

*The independent directors may choose to reapply for the position.

GIPL celebrated Kirsty Whiteoaks birthday this January. We wish her a happy year!



COME & JOIN OUR TEAM @GUMALA



Gumala is always seeking Members to join our small team of Customer /Member Services Officers (MSO) in the East Perth office.

Customer/Member Services Officers are the point of contact for Member enquiries, providing informed and reliable support and information about programs and benefits.

The role is highly customer-service focused, with an emphasis on problem solving and communication, as well as accurate data entry and general administration.

To be considered for this role you are required to provide evidence of being fully vaccinated for COVID-19 or having a medical exemption.

Apply now by forwarding your resume and a cover letter that tells us why you are suited to this position to **jobs@gumala.com.au**

EMPLOYMENT & SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Gumala has a partnership with the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) to encourage our Members, who aren't already, to enrol to vote for the next federal election (date yet to be confirmed).

We also want to make our Members aware that there are employment opportunities for AEC during this election. There is a wide range of temporary roles ranging from supervisory to administrative or logistics roles.

If you are looking for AEC casual work, please contact Hayley in the Gumala office on (08) 9219 4500 to find out more information.



Do you want to
work in an election?



aec.gov.au/indigenous
Authorised by the Electoral Commissioner, 10 Mort Street, Canberra ACT 2601
Original artwork by Marcus Lee Design



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facebook.com/GumalaAboriginalCorporation/ AND facebook.com/GumalaAboriginalCorporationJobsLink/

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/gumala-aboriginal-corporation>

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